



Governor Brian Schweitzer

*Montana*

GOVERNOR'S STATE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Governor Selects Desiree Memorial Award Winners**

HELENA - - - The Governor's appointed State Workforce Investment Board proudly announced the following award recipients for the Governor's Desiree Taggart Memorial Award for Workforce Development:

- Outstanding Business of the Year: Opportunities, Inc. (Great Falls), for empowering low-income families to obtain self-sufficiency; for offering staff continuing education and training, allowing for increased marketability and self-reliance. According to the nomination, a third of Opportunities, Inc. employees have previously been clients in parent volunteer programs.
- Individual Workforce Development Achievement: Yvonneda (Henry) Thompson, Chief Dull Knife College Extension Services (Lame Deer) for her dedication to the Northern Cheyenne community. "Chief Dull Knife College Extension Services' key to success has been building a network of invested individuals working together to grow a healthier way of living, respectful of Native culture, for the betterment of Indian people," said Thompson upon award.
- Quality Program: Youth and Family Services Program, St. Labre Indian School (Ashland) for developing and implementing, in partnership, activities to improve the chances of employment and their commitment to helping clients achieve self-sufficiency.

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"Award recipients are commended for their admirable and sincere commitment to the people and communities they serve," said State Workforce Investment Board Chairman Dan Miles.

The State Workforce Investment Board is currently soliciting 2007 nominations. Montana workforce development organizations, businesses and individuals are eligible for the awards based on outstanding achievement or contributions to employment and training efforts in Montana, including: improved productivity, creativity, economy and efficiency in Montana's workforce system.

Award nominations are due to the State Workforce Investment Board by May 31, 2007, and should be mailed to PO Box 1728, Helena, MT 59624. For more information, visit the State Workforce Investment Board's website of: [www.swib.mt.gov](http://www.swib.mt.gov) (Resources tab), or contact Chris Wilhelm at (406)444-4480.

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